

28 August 1961

**MEMORANDUM FOR : Members, Guided Missile and Astronautics
Intelligence Committee**

SUBJECT : "Nth" Country Working Group

1. Several times each year GMAIC is required to make a contribution on missile capabilities of one or more "Nth" Countries. Each time the drafting and coordination of the paper creates a flap situation. With additional "Nth" Countries recognizing the value of and acquiring a capability to produce guided missiles, indications are that the GMAIC workload in this area is on an upward trend.

2. Recently we forwarded a contribution on several countries to ONE. Its preparation clearly indicated to many that the present modus operandi was not satisfactory. This was borne out a short time later by the changes that necessitated a second memo, most of which was not based on newly acquired information.

3. I therefore propose that GMAIC set up a working group on "Nth" Countries. As I visualize it, this would primarily be several individuals within the intelligence community involved in the "Nth" Country problem and aware of the GMAIC responsibility in that field. I would not expect them to meet formally more than a few times a year but by informal communication among each other, they could provide the free interchange of information, the lack of which now complicates our "Nth" Country effort. On call from GMAIC they could then, with a minimum of effort prepare draft papers as required. If possible, I believe they should divide up the countries each would follow, so that there would be greater economy, and yet no country would "fall between the cracks".

4. Members are requested to survey their respective organizations to select a member for such a group and be prepared to discuss the matter at the next regular GMAIC meeting.

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Chairman

SECRET